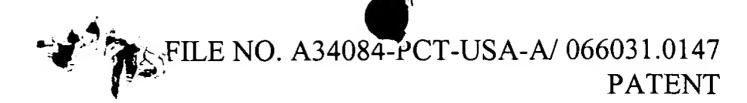
JOS BAKER BOTTS LL.P.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE #20/12.7.
5/12

Serial No.

09/801,371

Examiner:

Whiteman, Brian A.

Filed

March 7, 2001

Group Art Unit:

1635

For

REGULATION OF GENE EXPRESSION THROUGH

MANIPULATION OF mRNA SPLICING AND ITS USES

AMENDMENT

May 5, 2003

By Express Mail No. EU798117257US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAY 0 9 2003

Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

This paper is being filed in response to the Office Communication dated November 4, 2003. Applicants request a three-month extension of time up through and including May 5, 2003, and enclose the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the amendments and remarks presented herein.

05/07/2003 SDENBOB1 00000044 09801371

01 FC:2253

465.00 OP